

Report to: Climate, Energy and Environment Committee

Date: Tuesday 21 March 2023

Subject: **Item 6 – Monitoring and Evaluation Framework**

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Is this a key decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for call-in by Scrutiny?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information or appendices?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, state paragraph number of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, Part 1:	
Are there implications for equality and diversity?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

1. Purpose of this Report

- 1.1. To inform the committee about a monitoring and evaluation framework that is in development. This framework provides a flexible way to monitor progress towards the commitments in the Climate and Environment Plan. This framework will advance our ability to monitor the impact that projects and programmes are having on our climate ambitions.

2. Information

Background

- 2.1 The Climate and Environment Plan articulates activity that needs to be undertaken between 2021-2024 to set the region on a pathway towards achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2038. It builds on the 2019 Carbon Emission Reduction Pathways study and sets out 39 actions across eight themes to maximise emission reductions and improve nature and climate resilience.
- 2.2 Development of a monitoring and evaluation framework was commissioned to provide the structure and detail to enable the effective monitoring and evaluation of the 39 actions of the Climate and Environment Plan, and any resulting interventions (policies, programmes and projects). It is also expected that interactions between these interventions will be explored, outlining

potential benefits and challenges. The framework is a flexible tool whereby interventions can be inputted to allow forecasting of performance against a suite of indicators.

- 2.3 Following a procurement exercise in November 2022, genecon were awarded the contract to develop a monitoring and evaluation framework for the Climate and Environment Plan. Completion of the contract and delivery of the monitoring and evaluation framework are set for 31 March 2023. The framework is therefore still in development.
- 2.4 Alignment of the new framework with the State of the Region indicators is being considered. The framework offers the opportunity to provide much more detailed monitoring information on the projects and programmes within the Climate and Environment Plan and is therefore considered to be complimentary to the key socio-economic and environmental indicators for West Yorkshire monitored in the [State of the Region Dashboard](#).

Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

- 2.5 The framework will provide detailed insight into how impact will be understood, measured, quantified, and monetised. The ability to attribute benefits to interventions and to demonstrate net additionality will also be key. Alongside this there will be a need to incorporate a focus on learning and best practice in order to shape and inform future delivery.
- 2.6 A bank of indicators and appropriate monitoring and evaluation approaches will be identified to ensure that impact of the actions can demonstrate collective impact against our climate emergency ambitions, as outlined in the Plan.
- 2.7 The framework's dashboard will demonstrate the factual, counterfactual and achieved pathways, in line with the approach taken by the Carbon Emission Reduction pathways, to outline progress against the net zero carbon emissions by 2038 target.
- 2.8 Programmes developed against the prioritised Wave 1 actions of the Climate and Environment Plan will each allot a proportion of their budget to conduct monitoring and evaluation in line with and in addition to this overarching framework.
- 2.9 Updates on the outputs derived from the framework will be provided to the Committee alongside regular programme development and delivery updates as appropriate. This will be in addition to wider monitoring of trend data published and tracked as part of the State of the Region.

3. Tackling the Climate Emergency Implications

- 3.1. The framework will provide the structure and detail to enable the effective monitoring and evaluation of the 39 actions of the Climate and Environment Plan, and any resulting policies, programmes and projects that assist in addressing the climate emergency and meeting net-zero carbon in the region.

4. Inclusive Growth Implications

- 4.1. Economic, environmental and social indicators have been identified as appropriate to this framework. These indicators will support the monitoring and evaluation of contributions to inclusive growth within the context of the Climate and Environment Plan and a just transition to net zero.
- 4.2. It is crucial that transitioning to a net-zero carbon economy reduces inequality in West Yorkshire. It cannot be the cause of further inequality for our most excluded and deprived groups and communities. Furthermore, opportunities for better jobs and quality of life need to be embedded within the transition to net-zero carbon and sustainable economy.

5. Equality and Diversity Implications

- 5.1. Meeting net-zero carbon and transitioning to a net-zero carbon economy should be equitable and not be at the expense of any groups or communities. Indicators which support the monitoring and evaluation of equity, participation and inclusiveness of programmes and policies resulting from the actions of the Climate and Environment Plan will be included in the final framework.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. In July 2022, the Combined Authority approved development costs of £836,240 from gainshare funding for IP4 to fund Combined Authority programme management, staffing resource and technical support for the development of the Climate and Environment Plan Wave 1 project and programme development and resulting business cases.
- 6.2. From this development funding, £15,000 was allocated for the procurement of a supplier to develop a monitoring and evaluation framework for the Climate and Environment Plan.
- 6.3. The framework provides a structure to calculate and indication of aggregate cost-benefit ratio of the interventions developed under the Climate and Environment Plan.

7. Legal Implications

- 7.1. There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

8. Staffing Implications

8.1. There are no staffing implications directly arising from this report.

9. External Consultees

9.1. No external consultations have been undertaken.

10. Recommendations

10.1. That the committee notes the content of this report and provides feedback on the detail presented to support the shaping of the monitoring and evaluation framework.

11. Background Documents

There are no background documents referenced in this report.

12. Appendices

None